

Grades: 3-5
Sept-2018-19

The Story of Me Cave Painting



Overview

Students will create a personal narrative using a hand silhouette and simple drawings inspired by the cave paintings of *Cueva de las Manos* in Argentina.

Objectives

- Students will learn about one of the earliest forms of “narrative art” or “storytelling through art” by studying prehistoric cave paintings.
- Students will illustrate their personal narrative, similar to the cave art of the early humans.
- Students will work with chalk pastels and markers to create a negative hand silhouette that will include simple drawn images that represent the artist.
- Students will review the definitions of negative and positive space.

Activities

1. Show examples and discuss cave paintings or cave art.
2. Discuss what symbols and pictures early humans drew on the walls of their dwellings. Ask questions as to why they would choose these pictures and how they were made.
3. Talk about how these pictures told the story or narrative of how early humans lived.
4. Introduce new **Vocabulary** and **Info: Negative Space** and how the hands on the walls of the *Cueva de las Manos* in Argentina were made with mineral pigment and animal bones.
5. Have students think about what symbols and pictures they would leave behind that would tell the story of how they live.
6. What do they like to do? What or where do they live? What food do they eat? etc.
7. Introduce activity subject: Negative Hand Silhouettes/Cave Painting/The Story of ME
8. Have students trace their hand with chalk pastels. Once hand is traced gently lift hand not to disturb the chalk pastel line.
9. Using one finger, students will place their finger on the chalk pastel outline and gently blend the chalk pastel in an outward direction, working their way around the silhouette of their outlined hand.
10. If needed the students can outline again and repeat the process until a clear negative silhouette of their hand is visible.
11. Students will then fill in the center or negative space of their hand by drawing simple pictures with a marker that represent them.

Adaptations

Evaluation/Questions

- Why did the early humans leave pictures for people to find?
- What did these pictures tell us about how they lived? Do these pictures tell us a story?
- What is your narrative?
- What pictures would you leave for future people to see that would represent you?
- How can you represent your personality in picture form?